



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 5030.4E  
N88H

19 March 1998

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5030.4E

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: NAVY AVIATION SQUADRON LINEAGE AND NAVAL AVIATION  
COMMAND INSIGNIA

Ref: (a) Dictionary of American Naval Aviation Squadrons,  
Volume 1 - The History of VA, VAH, VAK, VAL,  
VAP AND VFA Squadrons, by Roy A. Grossnick,  
Naval Historical Center, GPO, 1995 (NOTAL)  
(b) Paint Schemes and Exterior Markings for U.S.  
Navy and Marine Corps Aircraft (MIL-STD-2161A(AS))  
of 1 May 1993  
(c) COMNAVAIRPACINST 4750.4A (NOTAL)  
(d) COMNAVAIRLANTINST 4750.5D (NOTAL)  
(e) NAVAIRRESFORINST 3561.1B (NOTAL)

Encl: (1) Guidelines for Navy Aviation Squadron Lineage  
Program and approval procedures  
(2) Current Navy Aviation Squadron Lineage List  
(3) Guidelines for Naval Aviation Insignia Program  
and approval procedures  
(4) Examples of Good Insignia

1. Purpose. To revise policy and approval procedures governing the Navy Aviation Squadron Lineage Program and the Naval Aviation Insignia Program. This instruction has been completely revised and should be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 5030.4D.

3. Background

a. Navy Aviation Squadron Lineage. The lineage and history of Navy aviation squadrons has been a source of confusion since the birth of Naval Aviation in 1911. Much of this confusion arose from the terminology used by the Navy, the lack of a consistent policy in selecting the alphanumeric designations for squadrons, the reuse of letter and numeric designations, and the many establishments, redesignations and disestablishments of aviation squadrons.

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This instruction sets forth the new policy for Navy aviation squadron lineage, shows the relationship between squadron designations and insignia, and requires Director, Air Warfare Division (CNO(N88)) approval of all Navy aviation squadron designations.

b. Naval Aviation Insignia. The use of Naval Aviation insignia is a modern form of heraldry that dates back to the early period of Naval Aviation in the 1920s and captures many proud moments of its history. The practice fosters a sense of pride, unit cohesion and contributes to high morale, esprit de corps and professionalism within the Naval Aviation community. It also serves as an effective means of preserving a command's tradition, continuity of purpose and recognition, as traced through its lineage. The ensuing guidelines are set forth to ensure that all command insignia and slogans are in keeping with the highest traditions of the proud Naval Aviation heritage.

#### 4. Action

a. Enclosure (1) provides policy and approval procedures for the Navy Aviation Squadron Lineage Program. This policy begins with the squadrons listed in enclosure (2). It applies only to Navy aviation squadrons. Marine Corps aviation squadron lineage is maintained and approved by Commandant Marine Corps, Code HDH-2 (Marine Corps History and Museums Division).

b. All Naval Aviation commands are required to have an officially approved insignia on file with the Director, Air Warfare Division's Assistant for Aviation History and Publications (N88H) under the Chief of Naval Operations. This includes all Navy and Marine Corps aviation commands listed in the Naval Aeronautical Organization (OPNAV NOTICE 5400, updated by N881C) and the Standard Navy Distribution List (SNDL) Part 1 and Part 2. Enclosure (3) provides guidelines and approval procedures. Examples of insignia meeting the current criteria for official approval are shown in enclosure (4).

c. Questions concerning Navy Aviation squadron lineage or Navy and Marine Corps aviation command insignia should be addressed to Chief of Naval Operations, Director, Air Warfare Division, Assistant for Naval Aviation History and

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Publications (N88H), Washington Navy Yard, Building 157-1, 901 M Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5059. Phone contact via voice mail: (202) 433-4355 or DSN 288-4355. For Marine Corps aviation squadron lineage, direct questions to the Marine Corps Historical Center, Reference Section, Washington Navy Yard, Building 58, 901 M Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5040 or call (202) 433-4245 or DSN 288-4245.



D. V. MCGINN  
Director, Air Warfare Division

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**GUIDELINES FOR NAVY AVIATION SQUADRON LINEAGE PROGRAM**  
**AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

1. These guidelines establish a lineage policy for Navy aviation squadrons in order to eliminate confusion and ensure consistency. The Navy has not had a formal policy for squadron designations and lineage since the establishment of squadron designations in the early 1920s. Chapter 1 of reference (a) provides a historical treatise on the evolution of squadron designations.

2. The terms applicable to understanding squadron lineage are as follows:

**Establishment:** A squadron's lineage and history begins on the date it is established and assigned a letter designation (such as HS, VF, VFA, VP, VS, etc.) and a number.

**Redesignation:** A squadron may be redesignated and assigned a new designation, such as VA-67, which was later redesignated VA-15 and then VFA-15. The history of VFA-15 begins the day it was established as VA-67 and includes the period during its VA-15 designation.

**Deactivation:** A squadron may be deactivated by reassigning its personnel and equipment and placing it in an inactive status. The designation remains on Naval Aviation's record of inactive squadrons until it is reactivated and becomes an active operating unit.

**Reactivation:** A squadron may be reactivated from Naval Aviation's inactive record and placed in active operational service, assigning new personnel and equipment. When a squadron is reactivated, it must use the last designation it was assigned prior to deactivation. The history of this reactivated squadron may be traced using the lineage of the squadron prior to its deactivation. To preclude confusion surrounding the reactivation of a squadron, a squadron cannot be reactivated and redesignated on the same day.

Note: Squadrons do not receive commissioning pennants when they are established. Hence, the terms commission and decommission generally refer only to ships.

3. Background on how squadron designations are tracked by the Assistant for Aviation History and Publications (N88H).

Enclosure (1)

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a. In concert with the definitions listed in paragraph 2, once a squadron letter and number have been assigned to a squadron, that letter and number combination can never be assigned to another squadron. As an example, VFA-15 was established as VA-67 on 1 August 1968. It was redesignated VA-15 on 2 June 1969 and then redesignated VFA-15 on 1 October 1986. Hence, the letter and number combination of VA-67, VA-15 or VFA-15 may never be used by another squadron. If VFA-15 is deactivated, it can only be reactivated and placed in an active status by using the VFA-15 designation. Another squadron cannot be reactivated as VA-67 or VA-15 since these designations belong to VFA-15.

b. When a squadron is deactivated, the designation and approved insignia used by the squadron are placed on the Naval Aviation Inactive Record. The insignia used by the squadron is also retired and remains with the history of that deactivated squadron. A newly established or redesignated squadron cannot adopt the insignia of a deactivated unit.

c. The history of a deactivated squadron will be held in the records of the Director, Air Warfare's Assistant for Aviation History and Publications (CNO(N88H)).

4. The baseline for the new policy on squadron designations is the current squadron lineage list in enclosure (2). These squadron letter and number combinations may never be used or assigned to another squadron. All previous squadron designations used by the Navy from the early 1920s to 1997, excluding those in enclosure (2), may be used for the establishment of any new squadrons.

#### 5. Approval Procedure for Assignment of Navy Aviation Squadron Designations

a. Any Navy aviation command responsible for establishing, redesignating or activating a squadron must contact the Director, Air Warfare Division, Assistant for Naval Aviation History and Publications (CNO(N88H)) and request a record review to ensure the squadron letter-number combination has not been assigned to a squadron or is not on the Naval Aviation Squadron Inactive List. If the designation meets that criteria it will be approved for use by the requesting authority, and a permanent record of the designation will be maintained by CNO (N88H). All squadron designations must be officially approved by CNO (N88H) prior to being assigned to a unit. This includes reserve squadrons as well as active operating forces.

b. Initial verification of a particular squadron designation should be directed to the Assistant for Naval Aviation History and Publications (CNO(N88H)) at

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(202) 433-4355 or DSN 288-4355. Once a verbal agreement is made regarding the squadron designation, CNO (N88H) will send a formal letter approving the use of that squadron designation.

6. The Marine Corps Aviation Squadron Lineage Program is maintained by Commandant Marine Corps, Code HDH-2 (Marine Corps History and Museums Division), which follows a policy similar to the one established by this instruction.

**19 MAR 1998****CURRENT NAVY AVIATION SQUADRON LINEAGE LIST**

<b>Squadron Designation</b>	<b>Changes in Squadron Designations</b>	<b>Date of Change</b>
<b>Helicopter Combat Support Squadron</b>		
HC-2	HC-2 Established	1 Apr 1987
HC-3	HC-3 Established	1 Sep 1967
HC-4	HC-4 Established	6 May 1983
HC-5	HC-5 Established	3 Feb 1984
HC-6	HC-6 Established	1 Sep 1967
HC-8	HC-8 Established	3 Dec 1984
HC-11	HC-11 Established	1 Oct 1977
HC-85	HS-85 Established	1 Jul 1970
	HS-85 Redesignated HC-85	1 Oct 1994
<b>Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadron</b>		
HCS-4	HAL-4 Established	1 Jul 1976
	HAL-4 Redesignated HCS-4	1 Oct 1989
HCS-5	HCS-5 Established	1 Oct 1988
<b>Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron</b>		
HM-14	HM-14 Established	12 May 1978
HM-15	HM-15 Established	2 Jan 1987
<b>Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron</b>		
HS-2	HS-2 Established	7 Mar 1952
HS-3	HS-3 Established	18 Jun 1952
HS-4	HS-4 Established	30 Jun 1952

Enclosure (2)



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HS-5	HS-5 Established	3 Jan 1956
HS-6	HS-6 Established	1 Jun 1956
HS-7	HS-7 Established	15 Dec 1969
HS-8	HS-8 Established	1 Nov 1969
HS-10	HS-10 Established	1 Jul 1960
HS-11	HS-11 Established	27 Jun 1957
HS-14	HS-14 Established	10 Jul 1984
HS-15	HS-15 Established	29 Oct 1971
HS-75	HS-75 Established	1 Jun 1970

**Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light**

HSL-37	HSL-37 Established	3 Jul 1975
HSL-40	HSL-40 Established	4 Oct 1985
HSL-41	HSL-41 Established	21 Jan 1983
HSL-42	HSL-42 Established	5 Oct 1984
HSL-43	HSL-43 Established	5 Oct 1984
HSL-44	HSL-44 Established	21 Aug 1986
HSL-45	HSL-45 Established	3 Oct 1986
HSL-46	HSL-46 Established	7 Apr 1988
HSL-47	HSL-47 Established	25 Sep 1987
HSL-48	HSL-48 Established	7 Sep 1989
HSL-49	HSL-49 Established	23 Mar 1990
HSL-51	HSL-51 Established	1 Oct 1991

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HSL-84	HS-84 Established	1 Jul 1970
	HS-84 Redesignated HSL-84	1 Mar 1984
HSL-94	HSL-94 Established	1 Oct 1985

**Helicopter Training Squadron**

HT-8	HTU-1 Established	3 Dec 1950
	HTU-1 Redesignated HTG-1	Mar 1957
	HTG-1 Redesignated HT-8	1 Jul 1960
HT-18	HT-18 Established	1 Mar 1972

**Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron**

VAQ-128	VAQ-128 Established	1 Oct 1997
VAQ-129	VAH-10 Established	1 May 1961
	VAH-10 Redesignated VAQ-129	1 Sep 1970
VAQ-130	VW-13 Established	1 Sep 1959
	VW-13 Redesignated VAQ-130	1 Oct 1968
VAQ-131	VP-931 Reserve squadron to active duty	2 Sep 1950
	VP-931 Redesignated VP-57	4 Feb 1953
	VP-57 Redesignated VAH-4	3 Jul 1956
	VAH-4 Redesignated VAQ-131	1 Nov 1968
VAQ-132	VAH-2 Established	1 Nov 1955
	VAH-2 Redesignated VAQ-132	1 Nov 1968
VAQ-133	VAQ-133 Established	1 Apr 1996
VAQ-134	VAQ-134 Established	17 Jun 1969
VAQ-135	VAQ-135 Established	15 May 1969
VAQ-136	VAQ-136 Established	6 Apr 1973
VAQ-137	VAQ-137 Established	1 Oct 1996
VAQ-138	VAQ-138 Established	27 Feb 1976
VAQ-139	VAQ-139 Established	1 Jul 1983

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VAQ-140	VAQ-140 Established	1 Oct 1985
VAQ-141	VAQ-141 Established	1 Jul 1987
VAQ-142	VAQ-142 Established	1 Apr 1997
VAQ-209	VAQ-209 Established	1 Oct 1977

**Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron**

VAW-77	VAW-77 Established	1 Oct 1995
VAW-78	VAW-78 Established	1 Jul 1970
VAW-112	VAW-112 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-113	VAW-113 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-115	VAW-115 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-116	VAW-116 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-117	VAW-117 Established	1 Jul 1974
VAW-120	RVAW-120 Established	1 Jul 1967
	RVAW-120 Redesignated VAW-120	1 May 1983
VAW-121	VAW-121 Established	1 Apr 1967
VAW-123	VAW-123 Established	1 Apr 1967
VAW-124	VAW-124 Established	1 Sep 1967
VAW-125	VAW-125 Established	1 Oct 1968
VAW-126	VAW-126 Established	1 Apr 1969

**Composite Squadron**

VC-6	VU-6 Established	1 Mar 1952
	VU-6 Redesignated VC-6	1 Jul 1965
VC-8	GMSRON-2 Established	1 Jul 1958
	(Guided Missile Service Squadron 2)	

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GMSRON-2 Redesignated VU-8  
 VU-8 Redesignated VC-8

1 Jul 1960  
 1 Jul 1965

**Fighter Squadron**

VF-2	VF-2 Established	14 Oct 1972
VF-11	VF-43 Established	1 Sep 1950
	VF-43 Redesignated VF-11	16 Feb 1959
	VF-11 adopted the insignia used by the previous VF-11 which had been disestablished on 15 Feb 1959. The newly designated VF-11 (16 Feb 1959) carried on the insignia and traditions of the Red Ripper squadron dating back to 1 Feb 1927, but not the lineage.	
VF-14	Air Detachment, Pacific Fleet Established	Sep 1919
	Became VT-5, an element of AirDet, PACFLT	15 Jun 1920
	VT-5 Redesignated VP-4-1	7 Sep 1921
	VP-4-1 Redesignated VF-4	23 Sep 1921
	VF-4 Redesignated VF-1	1 Jul 1922
	VF-1 Redesignated VF-1B	1 Jul 1927
	VF-1B Redesignated VB-2B	1 Jul 1934
	VB-2B Redesignated VB-3	1 Jul 1937
	VB-3 Redesignated VB-4	1 Jul 1939
	VB-4 Redesignated VS-41	15 Mar 1941
	VS-41 Redesignated VB-41	1 Mar 1943
	VB-41 Redesignated VB-4	4 Aug 1943
	VB-4 Redesignated VA-1A	15 Nov 1946
	VA-1A Redesignated VA-14	2 Aug 1948
	VA-14 Redesignated VF-14	15 Dec 1949
VF-31	VF-1B Established	1 Jul 1935
	VF-1B Redesignated VF-6	1 Jul 1937
	VF-6 Redesignated VF-3	15 Jul 1943
	VF-3 Redesignated VF-3A	15 Nov 1946
	VF-3A Redesignated VF-31	7 Aug 1948

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VF-32	VBF-3 Established	1 Feb 1945
	VBF-3 Redesignated VF-4A	15 Nov 1946
	VF-4A Redesignated VF-32	7 Aug 1948
VF-41	VF-41 Established	1 Sep 1950
VF-101	VF-101 Established	1 May 1952
VF-102	VA-36 Established	1 Jul 1955
	VA-36 Redesignated VF-102	1 Jul 1955
	(It should be noted that on the same day; 1 Jul 1955, the old VF-102 was redesignated VA-36. This unit is separate from the VA-36 that was established on 1 Jul 1955 and then immediately redesignated VF-102.)	
VF-103	VF-103 Established	1 May 1952
VF-143	VF-871 Reserve squadron called to active duty	20 Jul 1950
	VF-871 Redesignated VF-123	4 Feb 1953
	VF-123 Redesignated VF-53	12 Apr 1958
	VF-53 Redesignated VF-143	20 Jun 1962
VF-154	VF-837 Reserve squadron called to active duty	1 Feb 1951
	VF-837 Redesignated VF-154	4 Feb 1953
VF-201	VF-201 Established	25 Jul 1970
VF-211	VB-74 Established	1 May 1945
	VB-74 Redesignated VA-1B	15 Nov 1946
	VA-1B Redesignated VA-24	1 Sep 1948
	VA-24 Redesignated VF-24	1 Dec 1949
	VF-24 Redesignated VF-211	9 Mar 1959
VF-213	VF-213 Established	22 Jun 1955

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VFA-15	VA-67 Established	1 Aug 1968
	VA-67 Redesignated VA-15	2 Jun 1969
	VA-15 Redesignated VFA-15	1 Oct 1986
VFA-22	VF-63 Established	28 Jul 1948
	VF-63 Redesignated VA-63	Mar 1956
	VA-63 Redesignated VA-22	1 Jul 1959
	VA-22 Redesignated VFA-22	4 May 1990
VFA-25	VT-17 Established	1 Jan 1943
	VT-17 Redesignated VA-6B	15 Nov 1946
	VA-6B Redesignated VA-65	27 Jul 1948
	VA-65 Redesignated VA-25	1 Jul 1959
	VA-25 Redesignated VFA-25	1 Jul 1983
VFA-27	VA-27 Established	1 Sep 1967
	VA-27 Redesignated VFA-27	24 Jan 1991
VFA-34	VA-34 Established	1 Jan 1970
	VA-34 Redesignated VFA-34	30 Aug 1996
VFA-37	VA-37 Established	1 Jul 1967
	VA-37 Redesignated VFA-37	28 Nov 1990
VFA-81	VA-66 Established	1 Jul 1955
	VA-66 Redesignated VF-81	
	on the same day	1 Jul 1955
	VF-81 Redesignated VA-81	1 Jul 1959
	VA-81 Redesignated VFA-81	4 Feb 1988
VFA-82	VA-82 Established	1 May 1967
	VA-82 Redesignated VFA-82	15 Jul 1987
VFA-83	VF-916 Reserve squadron	
	called to active duty	1 Feb 1951
	VF-916 Redesignated VF-83	4 Feb 1953
	VF-83 Redesignated VA-83	1 Jul 1955
	VA-83 Redesignated VFA-83	1 Mar 1988
VFA-86	VF-921 Reserve squadron	
	called to active duty	1 Feb 1951
	VF-921 Redesignated VF-84	4 Feb 1953
	VF-84 Redesignated VA-86	1 Jul 1955
	VA-86 Redesignated VFA-86	15 Jul 1987

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VFA-87	VA-87 Established	1 Feb 1968
	VA-87 Redesignated VFA-87	1 May 1986
VFA-94	VF-94 Established	26 Mar 1952
	VF-94 Redesignated VA-94	1 Aug 1958
	VA-94 Redesignated VFA-94	24 Jan 1991
VFA-97	VA-97 Established	1 Jun 1967
	VA-97 Redesignated VFA-97	24 Jan 1991
VFA-105	VA-105 Established	4 Mar 1968
	VA-105 Redesignated VFA-105	17 Dec 1990
VFA-106	VFA-106 Established	27 Apr 1984
VFA-113	VF-113 Established	15 Jul 1948
	VF-113 Redesignated VA-113	Mar 1956
	VA-113 Redesignated VFA-113	25 Mar 1983
VFA-115	VT-11 Established	10 Oct 1942
	VT-11 Redesignated VA-12A	15 Nov 1946
	VA-12A Redesignated VA-115	15 Jul 1948
	VA-115 was in an inactive status from Aug 1967 to 1 Jan 1970. It was not disestablished during this time frame and had a very limited number of personnel assigned to the squadron which was located at NAS Lemoore during the inactive period.	
	VA-115 Reactivated	1 Jan 1970
	VA-115 Redesignated VFA-115	30 Sep 1996
VFA-125	VFA-125 Established	13 Nov 1980
VFA-131	VFA-131 Established	3 Oct 1983
VFA 136	VFA-136 Established	1 Jul 1985
VFA-137	VFA-137 Established	1 Jul 1985
VFA-146	VA-146 Established	1 Feb 1956
	VA-146 Redesignated VFA-146	21 Jul 1989

Enclosure (2)

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VFA-147	VA-147 Established	1 Feb 1967
	VA-147 Redesignated VFA-147	20 Jul 1989
VFA-151	VF-23 Established	6 Aug 1948
	VF-23 Redesignated VF-151	23 Feb 1959
	VF-151 Redesignated VFA-151	1 Jun 1986
VFA-192	VF-153 Established	26 Mar 1945
	VF-153 Redesignated VF-15A	15 Nov 1946
	VF-15A Redesignated VF-151	15 Jul 1948
	VF-151 Redesignated VF-192	15 Feb 1950
	VF-192 Redesignated VA-192	15 Mar 1956
	VA-192 Redesignated VFA-192	10 Jan 1985
VFA-195	VT-19 Established	15 Aug 1943
	VT-19 Redesignated VA-20A	15 Nov 1946
	VA-20A Redesignated VA-195	24 Aug 1948
	VA-195 Redesignated VFA-195	1 Apr 1985
VFA-203	VA-203 Established	1 Jul 1970
	VA-203 Redesignated VFA-203	1 Oct 1989
VFA-204	VA-204 Established	1 Jul 1970
	VA-204 Redesignated VFA-204	1 May 1991

**Fighter Squadron Composite**

VFC-12	VC-12 Established	1 Sep 1973
	VC-12 Redesignated VFC-12	22 Apr 1988
VFC-13	VC-13 Established	1 Sep 1973
	VC-13 Redesignated VFC-13	22 Apr 1988

**Patrol Squadron**

VP-1	VB-128 Established	15 Feb 1943
	VB-128 Redesignated VPB-128	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-128 Redesignated VP-128	15 May 1946
	VP-128 Redesignated VP-ML-1	15 Nov 1946
	VP-ML-1 Redesignated VP-1	1 Sep 1948
VP-4	VB-144 Established	1 Jul 1943
	VB-144 Redesignated VPB-144	1 Oct 1944



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	VPB-144 Redesignated VP-144	15 May 1946
	VP-144 Redesignated VP-ML-4	15 Nov 1946
	VP-ML-4 Redesignated VP-4	1 Sep 1948
VP-5	VP-17F (VP-17) Established	2 Jan 1937
	VP-17 Redesignated VP-42	1 Jul 1939
	VP-42 Redesignated VB-135	15 Feb 1943
	VB-135 Redesignated VPB-135	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-135 Redesignated VP-135	15 May 1946
	VP-135 Redesignated VP-ML-5	15 Nov 1946
	VP-ML-5 Redesignated VP-5	1 Sep 1948
VP-8	VP-201 Established	1 Sep 1942
	VP-201 Redesignated VPB-201	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-201 Redesignated VP-201	15 May 1946
	VP-201 Redesignated VP-MS-1	15 Nov 1946
	VP-MS-1 Redesignated VP-ML-8	5 Jun 1947
	VP-ML-8 Redesignated VP-8	1 Sep 1948
VP-9	VP-9 Established	15 Mar 1951
VP-10	VP-10 Established	19 Mar 1951
VP-16	VP-741 Reserve squadron called to active duty	1 May 1951
	VP-741 Redesignated VP-16	4 Feb 1953
VP-26	VB-114 Established	26 Aug 1943
	VB-114 Redesignated VPB-114	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-114 Redesignated VP-114	15 May 1946
	VP-114 Redesignated VP-HL-6	15 Nov 1946
	VP-HL-6 Redesignated VP-26	1 Sep 1948
VP-30	VP-30 Established	30 Jun 1960
VP 40	VP-40 Established	20 Jan 1951
VP-45	VP-205 Established	1 Nov 1942
	VP-205 Redesignated VPB-205	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-205 Redesignated VP-205	15 May 1946
	VP-205 Redesignated VP-MS-5	15 Nov 1946
	VP-MS-5 Redesignated VP-45	1 Sep 1948

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VP-46	VP-5S Established	1 Sep 1931
	VP-5S Redesignated VP-5F	1 Apr 1933
	VP-5F Redesignated VP-5	1937
	VP-5 Redesignated VP-33	1 Jul 1939
	VP-33 Redesignated VP-32	1 Jul 1941
	VP-32 Redesignated VPB-32	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-32 Redesignated VP-32	15 May 1946
	VP-32 Redesignated VP-MS-6	15 Nov 1946
	VP-MS-6 Redesignated VP-46	1 Sep 1948
VP-47	VP-27 Established	1 Jun 1944
	VP-27 Redesignated VPB-27	1 Oct 1944
	VPB-27 Redesignated VP-27	15 May 1946
	VP-27 Redesignated VP-MS-7	15 Nov 1946
	VP-MS-7 Redesignated VP-47	1 Sep 1948
VP-62	VP-62 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-64	VP-64 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-65	VP-65 Established	16 Nov 1970
VP-66	VP-66 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-69	VP-69 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-91	VP-91 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-92	VP-92 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-94	VP-94 Established	1 Nov 1970

**Patrol Squadron Special Unit**

VPU-1	VPU-1 Established	1 Jul 1982
VPU-2	VPU-2 Established	1 Jul 1982

**Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron**

VQ-1	VQ-1 Established	1 Jun 1955
VQ-2	VQ-2 Established	1 Sep 1955

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VQ-3	VQ-3 Established	1 Jul 1968
VQ-4	VQ-4 Established	1 Jul 1968
VQ-5	VQ-5 Established	15 Apr 1991
VQ-6	VQ-6 Established	5 Aug 1991
VQ-11	VQ-11 Established	1 Jul 1997

**Fleet Logistic Support Squadron**

VR-1	VR-1 Established	1 May 1997
VR-46	VR-46 Established	1 Mar 1981
VR-48	VR-48 Established	1 Oct 1980
VR-51	VR-51 Established	1 Jun 1997
VR-52	VR-52 Established	24 Jun 1972
VR-53	VR-53 Established	1 Oct 1992
VR-54	VR-54 Established	1 Jun 1991
VR-55	VR-55 Established	1 Apr 1976
VR-56	VR-56 Established	1 Jul 1976
VR-57	VR-57 Established	1 Nov 1977
VR-58	VR-58 Established	1 Nov 1977
VR-59	VR-59 Established	1 Oct 1982
VR-61	VR-61 Established	1 Oct 1982
VR-62	VR-62 Established	1 Jul 1985

**Fleet Logistics Support Squadron**

VRC-30	VRC-30 Established	1 Oct 1966
	VRC-30 Redesignated VRC-30	1 Oct 1978
VRC-40	VRC-40 Established	1 Jul 1960

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VS-21	CVEG-41 Established	26 Mar 1945
	CVEG-41 Redesignated CVEG-1	15 Nov 1946
	CVEG-1 Redesignated VC-21	1 Sep 1948
	VC-21 Redesignated VS-21	23 Apr 1950
VS-22	VS-22 Established	18 May 1960
VS-24	VS-24 Established	25 May 1960
VS-29	VS-29 Established	1 Apr 1960
VS-30	VS-801 Reserve squadron called to active duty	9 Apr 1951
	VS-801 Redesignated VS-30	4 Feb 1953
VS-31	VC-31 Established	28 Sep 1948
	VC-31 Redesignated VS-31	20 Apr 1950
VS-32	VC-32 Established	31 May 1949
	VC-32 Redesignated VS-32	20 Apr 1950
VS-33	VS-33 Established	1 Apr 1960
VS-35	VS-35 Established	4 Apr 1991
VS-38	VC-892 Reserve sqdn. Activated	20 Jul 1950
	VC-892 Redesignated VS-892	4 Aug 1950
	VS-892 Reserve squadron called to active duty	4 Aug 1950
	VS-892 Redesignated VS-38	4 Feb 1953
VS-41	VS-41 Established	30 Jun 1960

**Training Squadron**

VT-2	BTG-2 Redesignated VT-2 (Basic Training Group-2)	1 May 1960
VT-3	BTG-3 Redesignated VT-3	1 May 1960
VT-4	BTG-9 Redesignated VT-4	1 May 1960

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VT-6	Multi-Engine Training Group, Whiting Field Redesignated VT-6	1 May 1960
VT-7	BTG-7 Activated BTG-7 Redesignated VT-7	1 Jun 1958 1 Jul 1960
VT-10	BNAO School Redesignated VT-10 Basic Naval Aviation Officers School was established within the training department of NAS Pensacola in June 1960. BNAO School became a separate command under the Chief of Naval Air Training 15 Jan 1968.	15 Jan 1968
VT-19	VT-19 Established	2 Aug 1971
VT-21	ATU-202 Redesignated VT-21 (Advanced Training Unit-202)	1 May 1960
VT-22	ATU-212 Redesignated VT-22	1 May 1960
VT-23	ATU-222 Established ATU-222 Redesignated VT-23	Nov 1958 1 May 1960
VT-27	ATU-402 Redesignated VT-27	1 Jul 1960
VT-28	ATU-611 Redesignated VT-28	1 May 1960
VT-31	ATU-601 Redesignated VT-31	1 May 1960
VT-86	VT-86 Established	5 Jun 1972

**Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX)  
Antartic Development Squadron (VXE)**

VX-1	Established as Aircraft Antisubmarine Development Detachment, Atlantic Fleet	1 Apr 1943
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	Aircraft Antisumbmarine Development Detachment became part of a new unit called Antisubmarine Development Det, Atlantic Fleet	17 Sep 1943
	Antisubmarine Development Det, Atlantic Fleet redesignated VX-1	15 Mar 1946
VXE-6	VX-6 Established	17 Jan 1955
	VX-6 Redesignated VXE-6	1 Jan 1969
VX-9	VX-9 Established	30 Apr 1994

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**GUIDELINES FOR NAVAL AVIATION INSIGNIA PROGRAM**  
**AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

1. The Naval Aviation Insignia Program establishes the requirements and procedures for securing approval of Navy and Marine Corps aviation command insignia. The final approving authority for all Naval Aviation command/unit insignia, with the exception of aviation ships, is Chief of Naval Operations.

2. Requirements of Size and Shape

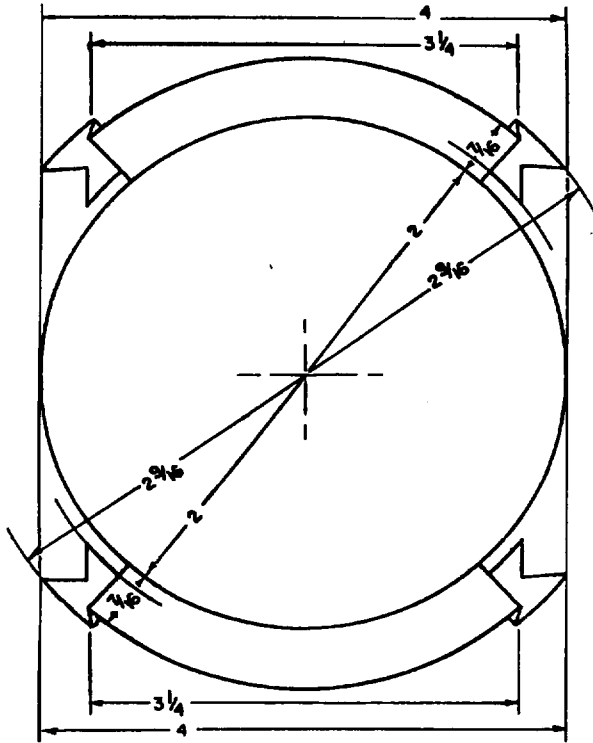
a. Circular. Commands at the squadron level shall have an insignia contained entirely within a circle of 4 inches in diameter. The circle shall be a part of the design.

b. Triangular. Commands above the squadron level, such as Carrier Air Wings, Naval Air Stations, Patrol Wings, and other upper echelon commands, shall have an insignia contained entirely within an equilateral triangle whose sides are 5 inches. The triangle shall be a part of the design. Its point may be either up or down.

c. Scrolls. The addition of scrolls to circular designs shall be immediately below and touching the circle and used only for unit designations, such as VF-10, VMA-151, VR-50, TACRON-11, etc. A scroll added immediately above and touching the circle may contain a motto or nickname which shall be in keeping with the dignity of the Naval Service. Scrolls may be used with triangular designs but must remain within the triangle.

d. The following is an example of circular insignia with scrolls and the required dimensions. All dimensions on this design are in inches.

Enclosure (3)



a. An insignia is expected to reflect the professional character of a command and its readiness to perform its appointed missions. It must always be in keeping with the dignity of the Naval Service. Any insignia which degrades human dignity or fails to promote a positive image for the Navy will not be approved. The design should be able to stand the "test of time" and should not be changed because of a modification in mission, change in assigned aircraft or

b. A heraldic design appropriate to the mission of the organization is desired, keeping in mind that the design will become the recognized symbol of the squadron or command. It may include appropriate symbols such as mythical beasts, fowl, fish, the sea, the air or geometric symbols or designs. Designs such as the Tophatters (VF-14);



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the boars head design of the Red Rippers (VF-11); and Pegasus, the winged horse of VP-11, are well known to everyone in Naval Aviation and have withstood the "test of time."

c. The design should be simple, with one or two items, as opposed to cluttered with many items. The latter is a very common mistake and lessens the impact of the insignia, particularly when viewed from a distance. The design should be developed in strong colors of good contrast.

d. The design should be dignified rather than humorous. Mythological and heraldic figures are permissible and encouraged. The following shall not be used:

(1) Any cartoon-type figures.

(2) Obscene or excessively gruesome figures or figures that rely on ludicrous exaggeration of physical characteristics or features. Common violations in this area are animals wearing articles of human clothing or performing human tasks.

(3) Recognizable aircraft or ship designs.

(4) Badges of qualification.

(5) Decorations or campaign ribbons.

(6) National and state insignia.

(7) Service insignia and cap devices.

e. Copyrighted designs in whole or in part shall not be used unless a written statement is received from the copyright holder permitting the use of the design in the squadron/command's insignia. A copy of this approval letter must accompany the unit's insignia request before the insignia can be officially authorized. Use of copyrighted designs shall be in accordance with copyright laws and presented in such a manner that they do not suggest endorsement of the product or service involved.

f. Naval Aviator wings, to include those of Naval Flight Officers, aircrewman, etc., although a badge of qualification may be used as a symbol of naval aviation as a

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whole by fleet air commands, naval air stations, and others above squadron level, provided they are not altered. Where applicable and with the same provisions, the additional use of other officially authorized aviation wings by these commands is permissible. Circular designs are prohibited from using these wings.

g. Mottoes, any type of lettering, names, designations, and designation numbers shall not be used within circular designs. Designations should be placed in the lower scroll and mottoes or nicknames in the upper scroll. Triangular designs may incorporate a motto, nickname and/or designation inside the triangle. Mottoes or nicknames must not degrade human dignity or fail to promote a positive naval image.

h. Insignia currently approved are exempt from the provisions of this paragraph as long as they remain in continuous use, are not modified in any respect, and meet the Navy's core values by not degrading human dignity or failing to promote a positive image for the Navy.

4. Display. No insignia may be displayed or used until officially approved.

a. Officially approved aviation insignia may be displayed on official flight clothing, unit flags and plaques.

b. The display of insignia on aircraft must conform to references (b), (c), (d) and (e).

5. Insignia Approval Procedure

a. All requests for approval shall be addressed to the Chief of Naval Operations, Assistant for Naval Aviation History and Publications (N88H), through the aviation administrative chain of command. The direct mailing address is: Chief of Naval Operations (N88H), Washington Navy Yard, Building 157-1, 901 M Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5059. Any questions concerning the historical background of a command's insignia should also be addressed to the Assistant for Naval Aviation History and Publications (CNO(N88H)). The phone number is (202) 433-4355 or DSN 288-4355.

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b. Proposed insignia shall be submitted with two full-color renditions, drawn according to the specifications contained here, and in the final form desired by the command. If approved, one copy of the design will be retained by the approving authority for record purposes and the other copy returned to the command as the approved insignia.

c. A brief accompanying statement of the significance or meaning of the design and its components should be included with the insignia approval request.

d. Upon receiving notification of approval of an insignia, the command will forward to the Assistant for Aviation History and Publications (CNO(N88H)) one full-color 70mm negative for incorporation into the insignia archives.

e. When a command is redesignated, a new negative and photograph showing the new squadron designation in the lower scroll must be forwarded to (CNO (N88H)).

#### 6. Application

a. With the exception of aviation ships, this instruction applies to all Navy and Marine Corps aviation activities listed in the Naval Aeronautical Organization (OPNAV NOTICE 5400, updated by N881C) and the Standard Navy Distribution List (SNDL) Part 1 and Part 2. Squadron detachments will use the insignia approved for their parent squadron. Separate insignia for detachments, even permanently established detachments, will not be approved.

b. Insignia of aviation speciality codes or job functions, such as rescue swimmer, will not be approved under this instruction.

c. Currently approved insignia are exempt from the provisions of paragraph 4, as long as they remain in continuous use, are not modified in any respect, and are in conformance with the standards of dignity espoused by this instruction. Commands with these insignia, grandfathered for approval by this instruction, are authorized a one-time option to modify or change their existing insignia. This

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option applies only to those squadrons listed in enclosure (2). Future insignia approved under the guidelines of this instruction will become a permanent part of the command's history and lineage.

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